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Attorneys for City of Newark (improperly pled as "Newark Police Department")

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(973) 733-3880

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

JARRETT CHAMBERS, by his guardian ad litem, PAMELA MCKEON,

Plaintiff(s),

v.

CITY OF NEWARK, CITY OF NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT, ABC CORP. 1 through 10, XYZ CORP. 1 through 10, JOHN DOES 1 through 10, and JACK DOES 1 through 10 individually and in their official capacity,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-6994 (KSH)

ANSWER OF DEFENDANT
CITY OF NEWARK TO AMENDED
COMPLAINT

SINAI CHAMBERS,

CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-6995 (KSH)

Plaintiff

v.

CITY OF NEWARK, CITY OF NEWARK
POLICE DEPARTMENT, ABC CORP. 1
Through 10, XYZ CORP. 1 through
10, JOHN DOES 1 through 10
Individually and in their
Official capacity

Defendant, CITY OF NEWARK, by way of Answer to the above-captioned Complaints says:

JURISDICTION

- 1. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 2. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 3. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 4. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

PARTIES

- 5. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 6. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 7. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as

- to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 8. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 9. Admit.
- 10. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 11. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 12. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 13. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 14. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 15. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 16. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

17. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION 42 U.S.C. 1983 DEPRIVATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE

- 18. This Defendant repeats and relies upon its Answers to the prior allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as though it were set forth herein.
- 19. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 20. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 21. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 22. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 23. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 24. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 25. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as

- to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 26. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION 42 U.S.C. 1983

FAILURE TO TRAIN BY DEFENDANT CITY OF NEWARK

- 27. Denied.
- 28. Denied.
- 29. Denied.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. 1983 FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT APPROPRIATE POLICIES, CUSTOMS AND PRACTICES

- 30. This Defendant repeats and relies upon its Answers to the prior allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as though it were set forth herein.
- 31. This Defendant repeats and relies upon its Answers to the prior allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as though it were set forth herein.
- 32. Denied.
- 33. Denied.
- 34. The allegations in this paragraph are not asserted against this Defendant.
- 35. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

- 36. Denied.
- 37. Denied.
- 38. Denied.
- 39. Denied.
- 40. Denied.
- 41. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. 1983 SUPERVISORY LIABILITY RESPONDENT SUPERIOR

- 42. This Defendant repeats and relies upon its Answers to the prior allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as though it were set forth herein.
- 43. Denied.
- 44. Denied.
- 45. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION NEW JERSEY COMMON LAW ASSAULT & BATTERY

- 46. This Defendant repeats and relies upon its Answers to the prior allegations of Plaintiff's Complaint as though it were set forth herein.
- 47. The allegations contained in this paragraph are not asserted against this Defendant.
- 48. Denied.
- 49. Denied.

50. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and leaves Plaintiff to his proofs.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF NEW JERSEY STATE CONSTITUTION

- 51. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 52. Denied.
- 53. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 54. Denied.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION

VIOLATION OF 42 U.S.C. 1986

- 55. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 56. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

WRONGFUL DEATH

- 57. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 58. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as

- to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 59. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

ALLEGATIONS

- 60. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 61. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 62. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 63. Denied.
- 64. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.
- 65. This Defendant lacks sufficient knowledge and information as to the allegations contained herein and Plaintiff is left to his proofs.

WHEREFORE, this Defendant respectfully demand that Plaintiff's entire Complaint be dismissed with Prejudice and seek costs to be assessed against the Plaintiff.

SEPARATE DEFENSES

FIRST SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred as a result of insufficient service of process.

SECOND SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred as a result of insufficiency of process.

THIRD SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred for failure to state a cause of action against this defendant upon which relief may be granted.

FOURTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred by applicable law, rule, statute or regulation, including but not limited to the Statute of Limitations, controlling or requiring the institution of suit within a certain period of time following actual accrual, was not complied with by the claimant, and accordingly, the claimant's claims are barred as a matter of law.

FIFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This Defendant is free of any and all negligence.

SIXTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Any injuries or damages allegedly sustained by Plaintiff were caused through the sole negligence of Plaintiff.

SEVENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Any injuries or damages allegedly sustained by Plaintiff were

caused through the sole negligence of any co-defendants.

EIGHTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Any injuries or damages that may have been sustained by Plaintiff were caused through the sole negligence of third parties over whom these defendants had no control.

NINTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Any injuries or damages that may have been sustained by Plaintiff were the result of an unavoidable accident for which this defendant is not liable.

TENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This defendant denies that it or anyone in its stead violated any duties or created any conditions that were the proximate cause of the damages allegedly sustained by the Plaintiff.

ELEVENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This defendant affirmatively and specifically pleads each and every defense, limitation or immunity provided to these defendants under N.J.S.A. 59:1-1, et. seq., the New Jersey Tort Claims Act.

TWELFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This defendant affirmatively and specifically pleads each and every defense, limitation or immunity provided to these defendants under N.J.S.A. 59:2-1, et. seq., particularly N.J.S.A. 59:2-3, 59:2-4, 59:2-5, 59:2-6, 59:3-2, 59:3-6 and 59:3-7.

THIRTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This defendant affirmatively and specifically pleads each and

every defense, limitation or immunity provided to these defendants under N.J.S.A. 59:3-3, et seq.

FOURTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This defendant affirmatively and specifically pleads each and every defense, limitation or immunity provided to these defendants under N.J.S.A. 59:4-1, et. seq., including but not limited to, immunity for injuries caused solely by the effect of weather conditions on the use of streets under N.J.S.A. 59:4-7.

FIFTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This defendant affirmatively and specifically pleads each and every defense, limitation or immunity provided to these defendants under N.J.S.A. 59:8-1, et. seq., particularly 59:8-4, 59:8-6, and 59:8-8, including but not limited to, failure to substantially comply with the notice provisions of Title 59, failure to provide hospital and medical records, notes and bills, and failure to file a Notice of Claim within ninety days as required.

SIXTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Any recovery to which plaintiff might otherwise be entitled is subject to reduction in accordance with the limitations on damages provided in N.J.S.A. 59:9-2, including but not limited to 59:9-2(d).

SEVENTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Any liability which might otherwise be imposed upon these defendants must be reduced by the application of the Standard of

Comparative Negligence mandated by N.J.S.A. 59:9-4.

EIGHTEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

The Plaintiff assumed the risk and was fully cognizant of any and all circumstances surrounding the alleged incident.

NINETEENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

The Plaintiff's claims are barred under the doctrines of laches and unclean hands.

TWENTIETH SEPARATE DEFENSE

The claims against this defendant are barred by the doctrine of res judicata and/or collateral estoppel.

TWENTY-FIRST SEPARATE DEFENSE

Any and all of the damages alleged by Plaintiff was the result of an Act of God.

TWENTY-SECOND SEPARATE DEFENSE

The Entire Controversy Doctrine bars the Plaintiff's claims against this defendant.

TWENTY-THIRD SEPARATE DEFENSE

The Doctrine of Equitable Estoppel bars the Plaintiff's claims against this defendant.

TWENTY-FOURTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred because Plaintiff has not been deprived of any right, privilege or immunity created or recognized by the United State Constitution, New Jersey State Constitution, of any Act of Congress or New Jersey state law.

TWENTY-FIFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred because the individual Defendants engaged in the good faith performance of their duties at all times relevant to the subject matter of the Complaint, and therefore, are entitled to immunity from liability under both State and Federal laws.

TWENTY-SIXTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred because these defendants did not deprive Plaintiff of due process under the law.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims are barred because this defendant is entitled to qualified, executive and/or good faith immunity.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

Plaintiff is not entitled to recover punitive damages.

TWENTY-NINTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

This defendant reserves the right to assert any and all other defenses, both factual and legal, as may be justified by information subsequently obtained.

ANSWER TO CROSSCLAIM(S)

In the event any crossclaims are filed against this defendant, this defendant answers by saying it denies the allegations of any and all crossclaims.

CROSSCLAIM FOR CONTRIBUTION

This Defendant, without admitting any liability herein, asserts that, should liability be found against said this defendant, it is entitled to, and hereby claims contribution from the co-defendants named herein, (and from any other defendants that may be added from time to time by amended complaint), pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Joint Tortfeasors Contribution Act, N.J.S.A. 2A:53A-1, et. seq.; the Comparative Negligence Act, N.J.S.A. 2A:15-5.1, et seq.; and the Tort Claims Act, N.J.S.A. 59:9-3 and 9-4.

CROSSCLAIM FOR INDEMNIFICATION

This Defendant denies any and all liability as to the claims of the plaintiff as set forth in the Complaint and asserts that its negligence, if any, was passive, secondary, imputed and vicarious with the negligence of the co-defendant(s) named herein (and from any other defendants that may be added from time to time by amended complaint) being active and primary.

WHEREFORE, judgment is demanded against co-defendant(s) for indemnification, attorneys' fees and costs of suit.

JURY DEMAND

This defendant hereby demands a trial by jury as to all issues contained herein.

ANNA P. PEREIRA CORPORATION COUNSEL

By: /s/ Avion M. Benjamin
Avion M. Benjamin
Assistant Corporation Counsel

Dated: April 17, 2012

CERTIFICATION OF FILING

The undersigned certifies that the Answer to the Amended Complaint on behalf of this defendant has been filed electronically.

ANNA P. PEREIRA CORPORATION COUNSEL

By: /s/ Avion M. Benjamin
Avion M. Benjamin
Assistant Corporation Counsel

Dated: April 17, 2012

SJS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS		DEFENDANTS			
JARRET CHAMBERS et als.		CITY OF NEW	CITY OF NEWARK		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff ESSEX (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)		-	County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE		
			INVOLVED.		
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)		Attorneys (If Known)	Attorneys (If Known)		
Nathaniel Davis, Esq. 60 Park Place Suite 208, Newark, NJ 07102		Corporation Coun 07102			
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF I (For Diversity Cases Only)	PRINCIPAL PARTIES		
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	Ø 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	I	PTF DEF 1		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) 	Citizen of Another State	2 2 Incorporated and I of Business In A		
		Citizen or Subject of a E Foreign Country	☐ 3 Foreign Nation		
IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)					
CONTRACT 110 Insurance	TORTS PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJUR	FORFEITURE/PENALTY Y	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES 400 State Reapportionment	
110 Instrument 130 Maine 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Forcelosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	310 Airplane	620 Other Food & Drug	422 Appeal 28 USC 158 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS 820 Copyrights 830 Patent 840 Trademark 861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	d00 State Reapportionment d10 Antitrust d10 Antitrust d10 Antitrust d20 Banks and Banking d50 Commerce d60 Deportation d70 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations d80 Consumer Credit d90 Cable/Sat TV d10 Store Securities/Commodities/Exchange 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 d10 Securities/Commodities/Exchange d10 Securities/Exchange d10 Securities/E	
Ø1 Original □2 R	tate Court Annellate Court	Reinstated or anoth	sferred from the district of t		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a 42 USC 1983 Brief description of cause: Wrongful death	te ming (Do not the jurisdiction	iai statutes uniess diversity):		
VII. REQUESTED IN CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23		N DEMAND \$	EMAND \$ CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: JURY DEMAND:		
VIII. RELATED CASE	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE		DOCKET NUMBER	2763 2710	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD WITH THE CONTROL OF THE CON					
RECEIPT#A	MOUNT APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUL	OGE	

JS 44 Reverse (Rev. 11/04)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS 44

Authority For Civil Cover Sheet

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. (a) Plaintiffs-Defendants. Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
- (b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
- (c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)".
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Rule 8(a), F.R.C.P., which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.

United States plaintiff. (1) Jurisdiction based on 28 U.S.C. 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.

United States defendant. (2) When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.

Federal question. (3) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.

Diversity of citizenship. (4) This refers to suits under 28 U.S.C. 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)

- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties. This section of the JS 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerks in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the seven boxes.

Original Proceedings. (1) Cases which originate in the United States district courts.

Removed from State Court. (2) Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 U.S.C., Section 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.

Remanded from Appellate Court. (3) Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.

Reinstated or Reopened. (4) Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.

Transferred from Another District. (5) For cases transferred under Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.

Multidistrict Litigation. (6) Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 U.S.C. Section 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.

Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment. (7) Check this box for an appeal from a magistrate judge's decision.

- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.

 U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC 553
 Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Rule 23, F.R.Cv.P.

Demand. In this space enter the dollar amount (in thousands of dollars) being demanded or indicate other demand such as a preliminary injunction.

Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.

VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS 44 is used to reference related pending cases if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.